



Department of Homeland Security Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 06 April 2004

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



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Daily Overview

- The Associated Press reports a computer hardware problem caused more than 800,000 credit card transactions to be double- or triple-billed last week at stores nationwide. (See item [7](#))
- The Associated Press reports a high-speed train driver braked to avoid derailing after spotting slabs of metal attached to tracks near the western German city of Dortmund. (See item [8](#))
- The Associated Press reports the proliferation of cell phones is having potentially dangerous consequences for firefighters and police officers, who in some places can't use their radios to call for help because of interference from cell signals. (See item [26](#))

DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *April 05, Reuters* — **Teton Petroleum to buy Russian oil field stake.** Teton Petroleum Co. on Monday, April 5, said it has agreed to buy a majority stake in a Russian oil field as part of the U.S. oil and gas explorer's bid to acquire more oil fields in the region. Denver-based Teton, which says it is the only publicly-traded U.S. oil and gas exploration company with all of its producing assets in Russia, estimates current production of the field at about 3,400 barrels of oil per day net to Teton. The acquisition also includes two exploration licenses. **After the deal closes, which is expected on or before July 1, the property will be jointly operated by**

Teton and a major western European partner, Teton said in a statement. It has already made a deposit of more than \$3 million to the seller. Teton's chairman last year said the company's focus in Russia would be oil fields with reserves of 50 million to 100 million barrels. He added that Teton plans to continue building production with an eye toward selling out to a major oil company later on.

Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/rc/040405/energy_teton_1.html

2. *April 04, nj.com* — **How safe is the proposed LNG terminal?** Some say the energy content of a liquefied natural gas tanker matches that of 55 atomic bombs. Others say the "radiant heat" stemming from an LNG fire could scorch the flesh of people several miles away. During a catastrophic event at an LNG terminal, others say the release of methane — the main component of the cooled gas mixture — would make it impossible to breathe. **These are concerns BP will face as the energy giant moves forward with a \$500 million plan to construct an LNG import terminal on 40 acres of a 175-acre parcel in Logan Township, (New Jersey), along the Delaware River, south of the line in the river separating Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware waters. The site is just north of the Salem County border.** Four such terminals operate in the U.S., and about 55 function worldwide. About three-dozen other LNG terminals are being proposed nationwide. **BP Spokesperson Neil Chapman said the facility will be designed to contain the impacts of a spill, vapor release or fire within the site, preventing harm to individuals outside the area.**

Source: <http://www.nj.com/news/sunbeam/local/index.ssf?/base/news-3/1081066828285200.xml>

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Chemical Sector

3. *April 06, The Australian* — **Fertilizer giant stops sale of bomb chemical.** The most widely available chemical used by terrorists to build bombs has been taken off the market by the Australia's biggest fertilizer manufacturer amid fears it could be used for an attack in Australia. **Incitec Pivot said yesterday it had stopped all sales of ammonium nitrate fertilizer — used in bombings such as the 1995 Oklahoma City blast and the first World Trade Centre attack in 1993 — citing "concern for public safety if the material is used for terrorist or criminal acts."** Attorney-General Philip Ruddock immediately welcomed Incitec's decision to stop selling the chemical. But his spokesperson said the federal Government would push ahead with plans for a uniform code for regulating its purchase, use and storage. **While not explosive on its own, ammonium nitrate can be used to create a cheap and powerful bomb by mixing it with other commonly available chemicals and adding a detonation device.**

Source: http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/common/story_page/0.5744.9202187^2702.00.html

4. *April 05, Daily Herald (Chicago)* — **Chemical spilled in Naperville BP plant.** A BP plant in Naperville, Il, was evacuated Saturday after a chemical spill. No one was injured in the spill of a flammable, volatile liquid called hexane, which is used for polymer research at the lab. Naperville Fire Department District Chief Scott Olson said approximately a dozen employees were in the building at 150 W. Warrenville Road around 9:30 a.m. when a staff member called to report the spill in Building 300. About 20 gallons of the liquid spilled from a container onto a

laboratory floor. A total of 35 firefighters worked for about three hours to carefully clean up the spill. **"When you have a hazardous material incident like that, it's not like fire-fighting," he said. "Everything is methodical and there are safety precautions to make sure no one gets hurt. It can take some time."**

Source: http://www.dailyherald.com/search/main_story.asp?intid=38081 39

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

5. *April 02, Government Computer News* — DoD procurement. Deirdre Lee, director of procurement for the Department of Defense (DoD), Thursday, April 1, promised to be more “heavy handed” when it comes to agency regulatory issues. Lee, speaking at a conference in Vienna, VA, said her office would institute two significant policy changes to the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulations. DoD last month issued an interim rule with a request for comments limiting the total length of task and delivery order contracts to five years, including options and modifications. The rule implements Section 843 of the DoD Authorization Act of 2004. Lee said DoD is extending the regulation to task and delivery orders under blanket purchasing agreements and supply schedules. But while Defense is moving forward with the required changes, Lee said DoD officials are hoping to tweak the new rules. She said the limitation “kills” the department’s use of award-term contracting, which rewards well-performing vendors with contract extensions. To address such limitations, DoD has submitted a legislative proposal to Congress to amend the law and allow for longer contracting terms. Lee said a final rule implementing Section 801 of the Defense Authorization Act of 2002 should be out soon. DoD published an interim rule last October requiring contracting officers to receive approval before using another agency’s contracting vehicle.

Source: http://gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/25506-1.html

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Banking and Finance Sector

6. *April 05, ZDNet (Australia)* — MS exploit, phishing scam threaten users. The combination of an exploit of a serious vulnerability in Internet Explorer (IE) and a phishing e-mail is posing a serious threat to Internet banking users in Australia. The perpetrators of the exploit lure unsuspecting Australian users to the malicious Web site by widely distributing spam e-mails—purporting to be from one of the Big Four local banks—containing what appears to be a legitimate link to the bank's Internet banking site. The IE vulnerability, however, has allowed the fraudsters to spoof the URL of the bank's legitimate Website by manipulating the information displayed in the status bar using an embedded form. Those who click on the link are directed to a Website which automatically executes a malicious key logger program on their computer. The user is then automatically directed to the bank's real Internet banking Web site. **The program then captures log-in details when the user logs in to the real site and sends those back to the fraudsters via an e-mail sent via an anonymous mail server based in Russia.**

Source: <http://www.zdnet.com.au/news/security/0.2000061744.39143943.00.htm>

7. *April 04, Associated Press* — **Glitch leads to overcharges on credit card transactions. A computer hardware problem caused more than 800,000 credit card transactions to be double- or triple-billed last week at stores nationwide, including Wal-Mart, officials said.** Staci Busby, a spokesperson for First Data Corp., an electronic payments processor, said Sunday, April 4, the excess charges on MasterCard and Visa accounts had been reversed. Busby was unable to say how many customers were affected by the 800,000 transaction errors. **"Anyone who conducted a transaction with a Visa or Mastercard on March 31 should check their statements,"** she said. The errors were posted to customers' accounts on April 1. "First Data corrected the problem as soon as we discovered it," Busby said. Busby said besides publicizing a toll-free hot line, First Data was calling affected customers. She said some people may not see the reversed charges on their accounts until Tuesday.
Source: http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/retail/2004-04-04-overcharge-credit_x.htm

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Transportation Sector

8. *April 05, Associated Press* — **German train derailment near-miss. A high-speed train driver braked to avoid derailling after spotting slabs of metal attached to tracks near the western German city of Dortmund, authorities said on Sunday, April 4.** None of the InterCityExpress train's 200 passengers were injured in the incident, which happened early Saturday morning. The six metal slabs, weighing 17.5 kilos (38 pounds) each, had been screwed onto tracks between the towns of Kamen and Nordboegge, on a line that links Cologne with Berlin. The driver braked sharply after spotting the obstacle, and the train came to a halt after hitting the metal and dragging it along the track for 400 meters (400 yards), police said. Dortmund prosecutor Henner Kruse said it was unclear whether the slabs could have derailed the train, which was traveling at 90 kilometers per hour (56 mph), had the driver not braked. Kruse said prosecutors had no information yet as to who might have been responsible, and said there were "no indications" of any terrorist background. **The slabs apparently were attached to the track shortly before the high-speed train arrived. A local train passed the site on the same track just 18 minutes earlier, police said.**
Source: http://www.news.com.au/common/story_page/0,4057,9192786%5E17_02,00.html
9. *April 05, Associated Press* — **Study: JetBlue No. 1 in quality for U.S.** JetBlue was No. 1 in quality among U.S. airlines in 2003, the first year that it carried enough passengers to be ranked, according to an annual study released Monday. The budget carrier had the second-best on-time performance, arriving punctually 86 percent of the time. So few JetBlue passengers were bumped that they did not register in the statistics used by researchers. Also, JetBlue customers also filed fewer complaints — 0.31 per 100,000 — to the Department of Transportation than all other airlines but Southwest. **The study's authors said the ratings showed that low-cost airlines are gaining market share because they perform well in ways that are important to their passengers. It "adds further evidence to the emerging performance gap between the legacy carriers and the no-frills network carriers," said Brent Bowen, director of the University of Nebraska's aviation institute and a co-author of the study.** Dean Headley, the other co-author and an associate professor of marketing at

Wichita State University, said most of the low-cost carriers were above the industry average on four performance indicators last year. Most of the traditional airlines were below the industry average, he said.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/nationworld/nation/wire/sns-ap-ainline-quality.0,1072150.story?coll=sns-ap-nation-headlines>

10. *April 05, Associated Press and WTOP News (Washington, DC)* — **Situation resolved at Union Station.** A scary situation, which caused an evacuation of the main terminal at Union Station, has been resolved. **Washington, DC fire officials say a suspicious backpack found in the main lobby at Union Station Monday afternoon, April 5, was full of shirts. Metro security alerted Fire and Park Police because the backpack was emitting a fuel smell.** X-ray machines and bomb-sniffing dogs revealed no circuitry. "The backpack was opened, and it was determined that there was some clothing inside, and also a can of lighter fluid that had been leaking for some time," District Fire and EMS spokesperson Alan Etter said. "Luckily this did not turn out to be as serious as it could have been." The area had been evacuated as a precaution, but authorities say things are now back to normal.

Source: <http://www.wtopnews.com/index.php?sid=186782&nid=25>

11. *April 05, Associated Press* — **District commuter rail riders will see an increased police presence.** The Washington, DC region's public transit agencies are reacting to a recent heightened terror alert by speeding up security plans already in the works, and imploring riders to be on the lookout for anything suspicious. Federal officials warned Friday, April 2, of possible terrorist attempts this summer to place bombs concealed in backpacks or luggage on board buses and trains or in transit stations. **Maryland officials are accelerating plans to loan bomb-sniffing dogs to the Maryland Transit Administration, which operates the MARC commuter line, and to install explosive-proof trash cans at MARC stations. VRE (Virginia rail) commuter rail riders will see an increased police presence at various locations.** And Metro says it might consider random passenger inspections as the busy summer riding season begins.

Source: http://fredericksburg.com/News/FLS/2004/042004/04052004/1081_162165

12. *April 05, Reuters* — **NYC to secure subways but no guarantees.** New York City Police Commissioner Ray Kelly said on Monday, April 5, the city was working hard to prevent an attack on its trains and buses but that the largest U.S. mass transit system was still vulnerable. New York has 2,800 transit police officers protecting transit, primarily guarding the subways, he said. In addition to their presence, they will conduct station and train sweeps, while the city has hot lines for vigilant passengers to report anything suspicious. "We can think of hundreds of scenarios ... (in which an attack is) feasible, but we've done a lot to prevent it," Kelly told CBS' "The Early Show." "It's an issue of being aware of your environment. There's no guarantees. We live in a dangerous world." The Republican Party will hold its national convention at New York's Madison Square Garden, which is above Pennsylvania Station, the busiest U.S. train station, which is used by long-distance Amtrak passenger trains and the city's subway system. New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg said last week he could foresee Penn Station being closed for a few hours while President Bush addresses the Republican convention. **New York began training thousands of police officers to respond to a potential attack on the subway, a 24-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week system that carries over four million people a day through 468 stations and over 600 miles of track.**

Source: http://wireservice.wired.com/wired/story.asp?section=Breaking&storyId=846318&tw=wn_wire_story

13. *April 05, WQAD (Galesburg, IL)* — **Galesburg Amtrak passengers call for tighter security on trains.** It only takes a ticket and a photo I-D to check baggage and get on an Amtrak train in Galesburg. Passengers say that's just not enough. "It's just an accident waiting to happen," said Kevin Marquardt, New Boston. "Do we have to have another 9-11 before we make changes?" After the deadly terrorist attack on trains in Madrid last month, there's new concern that trains could be likely targets in the U.S. Reasons why the government is looking at ways to screen rail passengers and luggage. **Galesburg is known as a town of trains. Nearly 60,000 passengers use Amtrak there each year. But while passengers like the convenience, some worry about security.** "It would be awful easy for someone to do something because no one's checking anything right now," said Paul Carr, Galesburg. The Galesburg depot reflects the way things used to be. You won't find any bomb-sniffing dogs or baggage screening. And that could be troubling. While some passengers say that feel safer on trains than on planes, they are preparing for the day when new security will make rail travel less convenient. **Galesburg passengers could get a look at new security measures in June. That's if the Department of Homeland Security is able to accept an invitation to give a demonstration at the annual Railroad Days celebration.**

Source: <http://www.wqad.com/Global/story.asp?S=1762729&nav=1sW7M3W6>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

14. *April 02, Seattle Times* — **DHL cutting jobs.** As expected, 1,000 former Airborne Express workers will lose their jobs in Seattle over the next 12 months as the new owner, German air-cargo company DHL Express, concentrates operations at its headquarters in South Florida. DHL filed the layoff notice with the state Employment Security Department Thursday, April 1. "Most here at our corporate offices have been extended job offers to relocate," said spokesman Robert Mintz. "I'd say 75 percent." Employees who chose not to relocate were granted severance packages. **The cuts come nearly eight months after DHL completed a \$1.05 billion acquisition of Airborne's ground-delivery operation. Since then, the merging organization has operated from both Seattle and Florida headquarters.** DHL is owned by the conglomerate Deutsche Post, which owns Germany's postal service. The company bought Airborne to expand its ground-delivery business and to compete against Federal Express and United Parcel Service.

Source: http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/businesstechnology/2001893670_airborne02.html

15. *April 02, Business Wire* — **UPS awarded additional access to Hong Kong with six new flights.** The Department of Transportation has awarded United Parcel Service (UPS) the authority to operate six additional flights between Hong Kong and its intra-Asia air hub in the Philippines via Singapore, expanding capacity between three important trade markets. **The new authority will enable UPS to provide twice daily service between Hong Kong and the Philippines, as well as direct air service between the key markets of Hong Kong and Singapore. The new flights will begin in October.** "This new authority is important to UPS

and its customers because it allows us to better synchronize a growing volume of trade in one of the world's fastest growing regions," said David Abney, president of UPS International. "The new flights will strengthen UPS's intra-Asia air network while allowing us to accelerate the flow of goods into and out of Asia. In the process, we also will extend air routes from Singapore and the Philippines to Hong Kong and the thriving Pearl River Delta, a key manufacturing region."

Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/040402/25388_1.html

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Agriculture Sector

16. *April 04, Cleveland Plain Dealer* — **Invasive bacteria. Following two months of frenetic efforts, federal officials now say they have intercepted and eradicated a dangerous tropical bacteria that accidentally slipped through a U.S. quarantine in early January. If it had gotten free, America's tomato and potato crops could have been crippled in a massive economic disaster.** This scare came from an unregulated offshore plant farm that allowed the bacteria into the country. Although the pathogen, *Ralstonia solanacearum* race 3 biovar 2, cannot harm humans, it is considered so hazardous to the nation's vegetable fields that after September 11 it was placed on the government's list of 10 substances likely to be used in an agricultural bioterror attack. The soilborne microbe wilts, yellows, stunts, and eventually kills tomatoes and potatoes, as well as peppers, eggplant, tobacco, and 46 other kinds of vegetables and flowers. It can be spread easily through irrigation water and contaminated soil, as well as during transplanting or by taking cuttings from or touching infected plants. The disease is not known to occur in the United States, and scientists say they have no cure. *Ralstonia* came by accident on a shipment of flowers from Guatemala. An offshore grower shipped the contaminated geraniums to a New York state greenhouse. The government was able to halt the spread of the bacteria by destroying more than two million geraniums.

Source: <http://www.cleveland.com/news/plaindealer/index.ssf?/base/news/1081071238176530.xml>

17. *April 04, Associated Press* — **U.S. impounds Canadian bulls. U.S. government officials are investigating how a truckload of rodeo bulls was allowed to cross the U.S.–Canada border and enter Montana, apparently in violation of government restrictions based on health concerns.** Montana Department of Livestock spokesperson Karen Cooper said 20 to 30 rodeo bulls gained entry from Canada this week. The animals have been placed under quarantine in the Helena area and present no health risk, she said. In May, the U.S. prohibited all live cattle from Canada from entering the country after Alberta reported a case of mad cow disease. The U.S. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is in charge of the investigation into shipment of the rodeo bulls.

Source: http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/1081039724900_76448924/?hub=World

18. *April 04, Associated Press* — **Parasite suspected in moose deaths. At least two moose near Delta Junction have been killed by a parasite never before found in Alaska. Biologists and veterinarians are investigating the deaths of five other moose in the area who may have succumbed to a brain worm.** One of the moose exhibited the same odd behavior as the two

moose killed by the parasite. Those moose were seen stumbling around just hours before they died. "We have not documented this type of worm causing disease or death in Alaskan moose in the past, but that may be because we haven't looked closely enough," wildlife veterinarian Kimberlee Beckmen with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game said. **Wildlife officials are trying to figure out whether the parasite poses a danger to moose around the state. The biggest fear is that the parasite is meningeal worm, a parasite commonly found in white-tailed deer in the Lower 48 that has been known to infect moose and elk.** While the worm is not fatal in deer, it can kill moose, caribou, reindeer, and other ruminants. Officials know the parasite is a roundworm and that it is transmitted to moose through larvae shed in moose feces that are picked up by snails and slugs, which are eaten by other moose as they browse. Once inside the animal, the parasite migrates into the brain and attacks the central nervous system.

Source: <http://www.news-miner.com/Stories/0,1413,113~26794~2063656,0,0.html>

19. *April 02, Canadian Press* — **Avian flu found on 18 British Columbia farms.** Avian flu has been found on 18 farms in the Fraser Valley of Canada, more than twice the number of farms believed infected a day earlier. **"The disease is spreading and it's spreading quickly,"** Brian Evans, of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, said Friday, April 2. **Evans said the disease most certainly came to British Columbia through wild waterfowl. But it's most likely being spread by human activity, on clothing, tires, equipment, or visitors to farms, said Evans.** "We cannot be certain at this time that we are on top of the situation. Further time will be required." **About 400,000 chickens have already been ordered slaughtered to contain the disease, but that was before the virus was found on farms outside a so-called hot zone.** The latest news is likely to mean hundreds of thousands of more chickens will be killed, some experts in bird flu have predicted.

Source: <http://www.canada.com/health/story.html?id=D0846887-6C86-4771-AD4E-0F32345FA072>

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Food Sector

20. *April 02, Food and Drug Administration* — **FDA responds to use of hormones in veal calves.** **The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Friday, April 2, announced public safety measures to respond to the unapproved use at several establishments of growth-promoting hormone implants in non-ruminating veal calves presented for slaughter.** FDA is issuing a guidance to the veal industry designed to maintain the safety of the food supply. Inspectors from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) discovered suspected hormone implants in veal calves from three separate lots that arrived at two slaughter plants in Wisconsin. FDA and FSIS immediately began an investigation to determine the extent to which the growth-promoting hormone implants are being used illegally in the non-ruminating veal calf industry. FDA defines veal calves to include any pre-ruminating calf, regardless of breed, intended to be, or having been, processed for veal. There are no FDA-approved growth-promoting hormone implants for veal calves, and the extra-label use of non-therapeutic new animal drugs such as these growth-promoting hormonal implants is illegal. **As part of its investigation, FDA intends to take enforcement actions to ensure that this activity does not continue.**

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Water Sector

21. *April 04, Associated Press* — **State eyes limits on water use. Despite heavy rainfall and flooding, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) plans to implement a policy that may require some communities to limit water usage through bans on lawn watering and washing cars.** The problem is far too little of the region's rain seeps into the ground, because much of it lands on pavement and is carried away by storm pipes. **More than one-third of Massachusetts' 27 river basins are now considered stressed because communities are taking more water out of them than is being replaced by nature,** the Boston Globe reported. A new DEP policy, which takes effect Monday, will allow communities that get water from stressed basins to take just 65 gallons per resident per day, down from 80 gallons now. That could force some communities, mainly in the central and northeastern parts of the state, to implement usage limits on residents.

Source: <http://www.telegram.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20040404/APN/404040577&cachetime=5>

22. *April 02, Associated Press* — **DC water authority violated federal law. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has accused the D.C. Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) of violating federal law in connection with the city's elevated lead levels in tap water.** EPA regulators said WASA failed to properly notify residents about the high lead levels and to adequately protect public health. The Washington Post reports a letter from the EPA to WASA General Manager Jerry Johnson accuses the agency of not following six requirements of the federal Lead and Copper Rule, which governs lead in drinking water. Thursday, April 1, WASA spokesperson Pat Wheeler told the Post that the agency was reviewing the letter and officials weren't ready to comment.

Source: <http://www.nbc4.com/news/2969571/detail.html>

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Public Health Sector

23. *April 03, Associated Press* — **New technology could detect unclean hands. New light-scanning technology borrowed from the slaughterhouse promises to help hospital workers and restaurant employees make sure that hand washing zaps some germs that can carry deadly illnesses.** A device the size of an electric hand dryer detects fecal contamination and pinpoints on a digital display where on a person's hands more scrubbing is needed. A technology company in Florida is hoping to tweak light scanners it already sells to beef plants to detect the same kinds of germs on humans. The blue-light scanners could dramatically improve hygiene among employees who forget to wash their hands. This practice is a leading cause of food poisoning that afflicts tens of millions of Americans every year. The company said its first clean-hand scanners could go on sale as early as year's end to restaurants, nursing homes, and hospitals.

Source: http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?BRD=1078&dept_id=529469&newsid=11243321&PAG=461&rfti=9

24. *April 03, CNN* — **Rabies vaccine recalled. A vaccine maker is recalling thousands of doses of rabies vaccine after discovering through routine testing that one lot contained live virus that could potentially harm human health.** The lot had not been distributed, Aventis Pasteur spokesman Len Lavenda said. As a precaution, Aventis Pasteur is also recalling three other batches of Imovax that were made at the same time, the Lyon, France–based company said. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said in a statement that the lots being recalled were distributed between September 23 and April 2, and "had passed all FDA–approved release tests, including testing to confirm the absence of live virus," suggesting the risk to anyone who may have received the vaccine is small. Rabies vaccine is made by killing live rabies virus. Injections of the dead virus stimulate the body's immune system to develop antibodies that kill the live virus. That process went awry at the company's plant in Lyon, where a bulk vaccine filter failed, Lavenda said. Two groups of people get rabies vaccines: those who have been bitten by an animal that is rabid or suspected of being rabid; and those at risk of being bitten, such as veterinarians, zookeepers, and people traveling to regions where rabies is common.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/HEALTH/04/03/vaccine.recall/>

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Government Sector

Nothing to report.

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Emergency Services Sector

25. *April 05, Department of Homeland Security* — **Department of Homeland Security announces exercise participants.** The Department of Homeland Security today, April 5, announced that the next Congressionally–mandated Top Officials (TOPOFF) exercise will take place in April 2005. Scenarios in the exercise will take place in Connecticut and New Jersey. Additional TOPOFF activities will be conducted within the United Kingdom as part of a partnership to strengthen security in both nations. **"The TOPOFF exercises are an important part of our national preparedness strategy. To make our response system stronger, we have to identify our strengths and weaknesses through challenging scenarios. Those scenarios are an integral part of the TOPOFF exercise and they force us to gauge our readiness, test our internal communications and develop and reinforce relationships across all levels of government and the private sector," Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge said.** TOPOFF 3 is the third of the congressionally directed, weapons of mass destruction (WMD) national exercise series. The first was conducted in May 2000, and TOPOFF 2 was conducted in May, 2003 with exercises taking place in Seattle and Chicago.

Source: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=3427>

26.

April 05, Associated Press — **Cell phones disrupt some police radios. The proliferation of cell phones is having potentially dangerous consequences for firefighters and police officers, who in some places can't use their radios to call for help because of interference from cell signals.** The Boston suburb of Cambridge, MA, is one of those areas. Last fall, an officer responding to a fight at an apartment had to walk to the other side of the high-rise to call for backup. The delay didn't cause any major problems for officers. But the potential is there, said Cambridge Fire Chief Gerald Reardon, who oversees the city's entire public safety radio system. **Radios used by police, firefighters and other first responders broadcast on the same 800 megahertz broadcast spectrum as cell phones. So, for example, if a radio dispatch is made at 850 MHz near a cell tower broadcasting at 851 MHz, the radio signal can get drowned out.** It's unclear how many municipalities are affected, but the problem is serious enough that police and firefighters have been urging the government to come up with a fix. Federal regulators are expected to do that in the next few weeks. Still, a battle is raging within the cell phone industry over what the government should do. The issue isn't just about what works best. Money — billions of dollars — also is a consideration.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/politics/wire/sns-ap-police-cell-interference.0.4507569.story?coll=sns-ap-politics-headlines>

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Information and Telecommunications Sector

27. *April 06, eWEEK* — **New version of Sober worm spreading in Europe.** A new variant of the Sober worm, Sober.F, is spreading in Europe, and some anti-virus companies are raising their threat levels for the worm due to its success. Sober.F arrives in an e-mail sent by the worm's own SMTP engine. According to F-Secure's description of the worm, **the incoming message can have any of a large number of subject lines and message bodies, some in German and some in English.** The message also contains an executable file attachment, which, according to Symantec, contains any of a list of names with an .EXE extension and is 42,496 bytes large. **When a user launches the attachment it sets itself to run automatically when Windows starts, then searches files on the hard disk to use as senders and recipients in the messages sent as it attempts to spread itself.** Interestingly, F-Secure says that the worm checks the hard disk constantly for a file named ZHCARXXI.VVX. If it finds this file, it immediately unloads itself from memory. If the file is present during installation, the worm does not copy itself to the hard disk.

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1759.1561527.00.asp>

28. *April 06, CNET News.com* — **San Francisco Bay Area tops in wireless cities survey.** The San Francisco Bay Area took top honors in a survey of cities that offer the most wireless Internet connectivity as the trend of increasing wireless access swept through U.S. cities, airports and college campuses. Chipmaker Intel announced the results of its second annual "Most Unwired Cities" survey. According to the results, the Bay Area—including San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose—took over the top spot from last year's No. 1, which was the Portland, OR/Vancouver, WA, area. The survey ranked the top 100 U.S. cities. **The point of the survey is to demonstrate how quickly hot spots—public areas where wireless networks have been installed that allow Wi-Fi device owners to connect and share resources such as a broadband Internet connection—are being installed.** Hot spots were

initially set up haphazardly and were part of a grassroots effort to give communities free wireless broadband access to the Internet. But more and more companies have been installing secure networks and charging for the service.

Source: http://news.com.com/2100-7351_3-5184737.html?tag=nefd_top



29. *April 05, Reuters* — **Technologists bet new Net standard will drive e-world.** The World Wide Web is just about 15 years old, but already it is showing signs of wear as growing demand for Internet addresses and everyday functionality challenge the limits of the technology behind the Web. Companies led by Japan's Nippon Telegraph and Telephone and KDDI believe the solution is a nascent next-generation standard: Internet Protocol, version 6 (IPv6). The advanced technology allows for virtually an unlimited number of Internet addresses, making it possible for every home appliance or device to be given its own address. **China, Taiwan and South Korea have announced intentions to upgrade to the advanced standard over the next several years.** In the United States, the Department of Defense has said it would phase out purchases of current standard-based network equipment and switch entirely to IPv6 by 2008. However, **Japan has been the forerunner in the field, helped in part by the government's so-called "e-Japan" policy, which aims to create a ubiquitous network that will allow any device or thing—be it an appliance or a box of cereal with a tiny tracking chip—to communicate via the network.** IPv6 devices are expected to start entering markets later this year.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/tech/news/techinnovations/2004-04-05-ipv6_x.htm

30. *April 04, CNN* — **Mobiles used in high-tech terror.** Mobile phones are in the hands of millions of people around the world. And increasingly, it appears, in the hands of terrorists. The bombers who targeted commuter trains in Madrid on March 11 used the built-in alarm clock in mobile phones to set off explosives. One of the Bali bombs outside the Sari nightclub in October 2002 had a cell phone attached, as did a car bomb which killed 12 people at the Jakarta Marriott hotel last August. But **there are products on the market to stem the use of mobile phones in terrorist attacks. One phone-sized device can block cell phone signals in a 20 foot radius. And larger devices can block signals reaching an entire building.** But in the UK, the U.S. and many other countries, it is illegal for civilians to use cell phone blockers. The right to make a call reigns supreme. But governments are using similar technology. The U.S. Department of Defense has plans to jam larger areas. Codenamed "Wolfpack," the technology would deny the enemy the use of all radio communications, including mobile phones, on the battlefield. But **to deny the terrorists the use of a mobile phone would deny everyone from using one in a certain area.** This is just not practical at train stations, concert halls, sporting events and most buildings.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/TECH/04/04/mobile.terror/index.html>

Internet Alert Dashboard

Current Alert Levels	
 AlertCon: 1 out of 4 https://gtoc.iss.net	 Security Focus ThreatCon: 1 out of 4 http://analyzer.securityfocus.com/
Current Virus and Port Attacks	
Virus:	#1 Virus in the United States: WORM_NETSKY.P Source: http://wtc.trendmicro.com/wtc/wmap.html , Trend World Micro Virus Tracking Center [Infected Computers, North America, Past 24 hours, #1 in United States]
Top 10 Target Ports	135 (epmap), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 3127 (mydoom), 137 (netbios-ns), 445 (microsoft-ds), 80 (www), 4899 (radmin), 1080 (socks), 3128 (squid-http), 2745 (urbisnet) Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html ; Internet Storm Center

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General Sector

31. *April 05, CNN* — **Thirteen held in Paris anti-terror raids. French police have detained 13 people suspected of belonging to a militant Moroccan Islamic group accused of carrying out last month's Madrid train bombings, authorities said.** The 13 were seized in a series of dawn raids Monday, April 5, in the suburbs of Paris. They are suspected of having links with last year's suicide bomb attacks in Casablanca, Morocco, officials said. "Thirteen people have been held in custody. They are suspected of being members of the Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group (GCIM)," Reuters quoted a statement from the French Interior Ministry as saying. **GCIM is a shadowy organization believed to be tied to Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network.**

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/WORLD/europe/04/05/france.raids/index.html>

32. *April 05, Associated Press* — **Texas, New Mexico brace for more rain. Parts of Texas and New Mexico braced for more rain Monday, April 5, after weekend thunderstorms gave rise to swift floods that drove dozens of people from their homes, closed roads and collapsed an interstate bridge.** More than 40 of the 100 residents of Toyah, TX, had to be evacuated early Sunday when arroyos and ravines that carve up the land filled all at once and came together to break an earthen dam. **A wall of water three feet high rushed through town, forcing out even Toyah's own emergency crews. Water 18 inches deep still ran through the streets late Sunday. Not far from Toyah, law enforcement officers had warning that the eastbound Interstate 20 bridge was about to crumble and were able to close the road before it collapsed. Authorities also shut down a nearby Union Pacific Railroad bridge.** In Crystal City, about 80 miles southwest of San Antonio, hail slightly smaller than golf balls pummeled the city. A grocery store roof collapsed and at least 25 homes had broken windows, said police Chief Luis Contreras. In northern New Mexico, more than 1,000 customers of the

Mora–San Miguel County Electric Cooperative were in the dark for a second day Sunday after up to two feet of snow fell in the area.

Source: http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=519&ncid=718&e=9&u=/ap/20040405/ap_on_re_us/spring_flooding

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